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may be added to any of the formulae (1) through (7). If both of the Y_c and X_c are added in the calculation using anyone of the formulae (1) – (7), it becomes possible to obtain the VA with more precise reflection of the patient's personal physical characteristics.--

In the Claims:

Please replace claims 3, 15, and 18-21, with the following amended claims 3, 15, and 18-21.

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3. (Amended) The visceral fat determining device according to claim 1, further comprising body fat ratio measuring means for measuring a bioelectrical impedance Z of the patient via electrodes contacted to end portions of the patient and for calculating a body fat ratio FAT of the patient based on the measured bioelectrical impedance Z and the inputted personal data or a portion thereof,

wherein the body fat ratio FAT obtained by the body fat ratio measuring means is displayed on the display device.

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15. (Amended) The visceral fat determining device according to claim 4, further comprising body fat ratio measuring means for measuring a bioelectrical impedance Z of the patient via electrodes contacted to end portions of the patient and for calculating a body fat ratio FAT of the patient based on the measured bioelectrical impedance Z and the inputted personal data or a portion thereof,

wherein the body fat ratio FAT obtained by the body fat ratio measuring means is

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displayed on the display device.

18. (Amended) The visceral fat determining device according to claim 4, wherein the calculation of the estimated value of abdominal visceral fat cross sectional area VA is performed with addition of a correction term by age and/or a correction term by sex, of the patient.

19. (Amended) The visceral fat determining device according to claim 4, wherein a plurality of ranking levels defined by a plurality of standard values are provided in advance for the abdominal visceral fat cross sectional area VA, the estimated value of the abdominal visceral fat cross sectional area VA given by the calculation being displayed on the display device in conformity with the ranking levels.

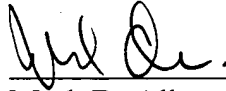
20. (Amended) The visceral fat determining device according to claim 1, wherein the abdominal girth WL is provided by an abdominal girth at the fourth lumbar vertebrae of the patient, and the gluteal girth HL is provided by a girth measured generally at the thickest portion on the buttocks of the patient.

21. (Amended) The visceral fat determining device according to claim 1, further comprising size measuring means for measuring the abdominal girth WL and the gluteal girth HL.

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned with any questions concerning this preliminary amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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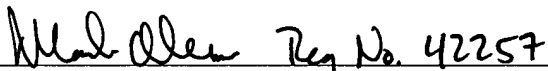
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